

# Sunday Times

THE PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE

## Yes, but what's the question?

THE Prime Minister has been wise to call a referendum on his constitutional proposals. Any-one proposing to tamper with anything as fundamental as the very basis upon which a country is governed is well advised to consult those most closely concerned — the governed themselves.

Let it be said, too, that Mr P W Botha has displayed no small measure of courage in going to the people. Heaven knows, he has invested enough time and energy in marketing his scheme through a wearisome, and delaying, round of caucuses and congresses. Now he's staking all — including his career in public life? — on a vote of confidence from the electorate.

That said, let us list some reservations.

First, why consult only a section of the governed, the whites? Ideally, all South Africans, including blacks, should have a say when the country's constitution is to be changed. But, given the nature of the prevailing dispensation, any such hope is politically unrealistic.

But that cannot excuse the omission of coloureds and Indians. As the people most closely affected by the new deal, they surely have more right than anyone else to express their opinions in a national head count.

Mr Botha seems to have left the door open for a coloured and Indian poll. He should pass through it.

Second, on the vital question of whether to vote yes or no, prudent South Africans will keep their op-

tions open until they see what the question is.

Mr Botha has said that the referendum will be on the principle contained in the Bill which will soon be presented to Parliament (when, one presumes, it has finally got past an apparently fractious Cabinet). But one man's principle can be another man's constitutional schler.

Judgment on whether or not the proposed power sharing is the genuine article must await publication of the legislation. At this stage, though, Mr Botha would be wise to heed this warning: if his intention is to unite moderate opinion behind him, he should not try to sell second-class citizenship to brown people under the guise of something else.

The question needs to be clearly phrased and to invite our individual opinion on one simple issue: do we, or do we not, want power sharing between white and brown?

If the question is plain and unequivocal, Mr Botha may be surprised at the scale of support he receives. The nation's voters — those who already qualify as well as brown voters-to-be — will finally divide up neatly into a healthy majority made up of those who favour genuine reform (even if it is only this first step) and a minority of sclerotic citizens who remain locked into a dangerous and discredited past.

If, however, Mr Botha's courage (or his Cabinet support?) fails him and the loaf he seeks to sell is even less than half, he will be astonished by the opposition he encounters — from both left and right.

## A taxing problem

HE WHO holds the purse strings rules the nation. Which is why since time immemorial the oppressed have felt their oppression most keenly when they have been compelled to pay the Government piper, but are not allowed to call the tune.

In a one-time British colony that sense of injustice exploded in the most important war of independence in history. But we do not have to look too far afield to remember the lesson of "no taxation without representation" which for centuries has lain at the heart of the struggle for democratic government. In the Transvaal it was the fuse that lit the South African War.

It is thus perhaps unfair, but surely not unexpected, that a long overdue act of budgetary equity from Mr Owen Horwood should have revealed so spectacularly the Government's tattered reformist slip.

For even as the Government resolutely turns its constitutional back on 25-million black South Af-

ricans, Mr Horwood has announced that they will henceforth be taxed on the same basis as whites.

It has long been an offensive inequity in our tax system that blacks, who are almost by definition the poorest South Africans, have become taxpayers at a much lower income level than their white and wealthy compatriots. So Mr Horwood's promise of parity is a reform devoutly to be wished and welcomed.

But as glaring as the old inequity was, so is the Government's steadfast refusal to contemplate a far more important reform: the accommodation of those taxpayers in a new constitution in which they, as much as the whites, coloureds and Indians, will have a say in how their funds are spent.

Politics, as both George III and President Paul Kruger discovered to their cost, is about who gets what, where, when and how. Peaceful reform — as they both forgot — is about letting the people who pay decide who will get.

IN AN interview in last week's Sunday Times Professor Sampie Terreblanche said that discrimination could not be dismantled within a short period of time, because the capacity of the South African economy sets limits on the process.

This follows his implicit, but extremely important assumption that electoral democratisation has to take place within the framework of a unitary system of government, one with a single centre of ultimate authority.

But as soon as this assumption is dropped, an alternative conclusion follows.

Professors Jan Lombard and Koos Stadler and Mr Fritz Steyn of the University of Pretoria have shown that the maintenance of a 4.5 percent real rate of growth in output over the next 20 years provides considerable scope for narrowing some of the most important gaps between the average standards of living of the different population groups.

More specifically, the growth rate will, in the next 20 years, make possible real expenditure on food, housing and other physical capital equal to about 2.4 times that of the past 20 years; and real expenditure on education equal to about three times that of the past two decades.

### Limits

While the economy will be able to fulfil considerable material aspirations, they found that if the Government continues to be held responsible for the support of the welfare of the public on the same basis as before, the provision of both education and housing will place the government budget under considerable strain.

They conclude: "Unless more of the outlays on education and housing can be financed by households and business enterprises out of private savings, tax revenue in relation to the gross domestic product will have to rise substantially."

One can only conclude that the present unitary political system rather than the economy is setting the kind of limits to which Professor Terreblanche referred.

The Terreblanche model is politically unstable, because it is based on the maintenance of discrimination for a long time to come. Professor Terreblanche's argument is that an electoral democracy inevitably leads to a welfare state, in other words to a redistribution of income and wealth following from the new-found political bargaining power of the poor majority.

According to him: "Even modest reforms in South Africa would make it necessary for whites to scale down their standard of living over the next 10 or 20 years by at least 20 percent."

# No, Sampie — you've got it wrong

In a new North-South debate, PROFESSOR JOHANN DU PISANIE, of the University of Pretoria, challenges his fellow economist, Professor Sampie Terreblanche of Stellenbosch

So the "economic cost of political democratisation" is high and "the tax capacity of the economy sets important limits on constitutional and political change". The structure of apartheid can only be dismantled "over a very long period".

What we are experiencing in South Africa today, is a revolution of rising expectations on the part of coloureds, Indians and blacks. Any attempt to slow down political reforms are bound to bring about dis-

content, frustration and violence, rather than stabilisation.

On the other hand, one must agree that rapid democratisation in a centralised welfare state will bring about a crippling of the economy, an exodus of especially foreign entrepreneurs and capital, as well as violent reaction from right-wing whites.

### Alternative

It is precisely this tightrope situation that gives rise to grave doubts as to the continued viability of any unitary system of government, one with a single centre of ultimate authority.

An alternative, more hopeful, scenario is provided by democratisation in a compound republic — a system of decentralised, limited government.

A compound republic consists of various concurrent governments, each with limited jurisdiction, but fully self-governing within the scope of its limited jurisdiction. It contains no single cen-

tre of ultimate authority. Each of the concurrent governments is controlled by its electorate and not by a "higher" government in a hierarchy of command.

It derives its life and authority from the electorate and remains solely responsible to it. The limits of its jurisdiction are set out in a constitution and the corresponding rights of citizens and other governments are enforced by an independent judiciary.

The first exponents of the theory of a compound republic, Hamilton, Madison and Jay, stressed that a constitution "is established by the people and unalterably by the government".

Another principle stressed by Hamilton is that each of the concurrent governments must have adequate sources of income to ensure its independence from other governments.

Each of the concurrent governments in a compound republic represents one of numerous communities of interest. The kind and extent of the particular community of interest will determine its jurisdiction.

The national government's jurisdiction will be limited to those affairs that are truly common to all citizens. All other matters will be handled by governments representing smaller communities of interest.

These might be created by the existence of cultural coherences. It will then consist of a group of persons who are not necessarily present in any particular geographic area and the government unit will provide culturally sensitive services such as education, to members of the group, wherever it is feasible.

A community of interest can also be created by the existence of regional coherences among people who live and work in areas with a high degree of interaction.

Such a group has needs which are culturally insensitive and which could be provided for by a government with regionally defined jurisdiction. Examples of functions they could perform, might be the provision of electricity, water, sewage, and road networks.

It is important to note that each citizen of a compound republic can participate in diverse constituencies, and each regime will be responsible for the

"own" affairs of the particular community of interest.

It must be further noted that no discrimination is necessary, once such a system of decentralised, limited government has been established. Each person can participate effectively in those governments representing communities of interest to which he belongs.

The oververse of this is that no person can interfere in governments representing communities of interest to which he does not belong.

Usurpation of "government" to enrich a majority group at the expense of another becomes much more difficult than in a unitary system of government.

### Hard to 'sell'

In the latter, the majority has to capture only one government — the one holding ultimate authority. In a compound republic, the majority has to capture numerous, autonomous governments with limited authority in order to dominate the government system.

This means that it must have a majority in each of numerous, diverse communities of interest. In a

The national government will be limited to those affairs that are truly common to all citizens

society consisting of cultural minorities, such as South Africa, this seems unlikely. Yet, considerable difficulty in "selling" the idea of a compound republic to South Africans of all kinds must be expected. Simply because it is so foreign to people who have been brought up in a unitary system of government, they fail to believe that a system with no single centre of sovereignty or ultimate authority can possibly exist.

Even economists who applaud competition in the private sector, fail to accept the application of this very principle in the public sector — where it is termed the principle of concurrent governments.

Many white voters obviously fear the extension of suffrage on the national level to persons who have hitherto been deprived of voting rights.

This is understandable, given that they think in terms of a unitary system of government.

Because of this, I would argue that the Republic of South Africa should first reform its system of government to that of a compound republic consisting of concurrent, autonomous governments with limited jurisdiction in the true sense of the word and then start extending the vote to coloureds, Indians and blacks.

This process should begin with governments representing smaller communities of interest, rather than at the national level.

Some would argue that it will be more difficult to get the white voter to accept inclusion of coloureds, Indians and blacks in local authorities than in the national government, because people rub shoulders daily in the local sphere and therefore are more aware of their differences.

Provided that local and regional authorities are limited to the performance of culturally non-sensitive functions, such as road and sewerage systems, which are truly common to those living in areas with a high degree of interaction, it is hard to believe such a contention. Electoral democratisation must certainly be much less threatening on this level and in respect of these functions than when it happens on the national level in a unitary system of government.

The proposed system of decentralised, limited government would also be difficult to "sell" to coloured, Indian and black South Africans, for exactly the reason that whites should embrace it.

"How," they will ask, "are we going to use this system to redistribute opportunity, wealth and income in favour of ourselves?"

The answer is that such redistribution is not impossible in a compound republic, but that the system has built-in protection against the drastic kind of redistribution that Professor Terreblanche sees as a necessary concomitant of electoral democratisation.

The major advantage of introducing a system of concurrent, autonomous governments with limited jurisdiction is that it will create the possibility to move away from discrimination much faster than Professor Terreblanche envisages and without over-stressing the economy — provided that responsibility for education and other culturally sensitive functions is not allocated to the national government and that production of private goods, such as housing, is left to the private sector.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

ously fear the extension of suffrage on the national level to persons who have hitherto been deprived of voting rights.

This is understandable, given that they think in terms of a unitary system of government.

Because of this, I would argue that the Republic of South Africa should first reform its system of government to that of a compound republic consisting of concurrent, autonomous governments with limited jurisdiction in the true sense of the word and then start extending the vote to coloureds, Indians and blacks.

This process should begin with governments representing smaller communities of interest, rather than at the national level.

Some would argue that it will be more difficult to get the white voter to accept inclusion of coloureds, Indians and blacks in local authorities than in the national government, because people rub shoulders daily in the local sphere and therefore are more aware of their differences.

### Protection

Provided that local and regional authorities are limited to the performance of culturally non-sensitive functions, such as road and sewerage systems, which are truly common to those living in areas with a high degree of interaction, it is hard to believe such a contention. Electoral democratisation must certainly be much less threatening on this level and in respect of these functions than when it happens on the national level in a unitary system of government.

The proposed system of decentralised, limited government would also be difficult to "sell" to coloured, Indian and black South Africans, for exactly the reason that whites should embrace it.

"How," they will ask, "are we going to use this system to redistribute opportunity, wealth and income in favour of ourselves?"

The answer is that such redistribution is not impossible in a compound republic, but that the system has built-in protection against the drastic kind of redistribution that Professor Terreblanche sees as a necessary concomitant of electoral democratisation.

The major advantage of introducing a system of concurrent, autonomous governments with limited jurisdiction is that it will create the possibility to move away from discrimination much faster than Professor Terreblanche envisages and without over-stressing the economy — provided that responsibility for education and other culturally sensitive functions is not allocated to the national government and that production of private goods, such as housing, is left to the private sector.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

and the details quoted are completely correct.

Mr Jensen hasn't even told Newsweek readers that fewer than 100 000 white farmers occupy more than five times the total area of all the homelands — including the independent ones.

Descriptions of the plight of migrant workers and of rural unemployment, though not flattering, are true — a fair account of the quality of life among millions of fellow South Africans.

# HOGARTH

## Let's twis again — like last summer

HOGARTH was not a million miles from the truth when he suggested last week that a certain lack of harmony existed in the Cabinet over details of the new constitution.

Mr F W de Klerk, especially, was reportedly less than pleased with the suggestion that the package might obstruct those come-hither looks he's casting at CP supporters.

But after the PM's referendum announcement the Transvaal NP leader came clean.

The referendum, he said, would help to "restore a spirit of unity in white ranks".

Pity that unity does not seem to extend to the Cabinet room.

### See who's 'chicken'

ANOTHER Minister who is said to have doubts about Mr Heunis's package is none other than that putative verligte, Dr Gerrit Viljoen.

He is said to have suffered a sea-change after a particularly rough meeting in that supposed seat of northern enlightenment, Waterkloof.

The CP may not win the by-elections, but it plays "chicken" with the best of them.

### Beyond his Ken

SO Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, in London to see the Queen, gives us four years to the apocalypse.

A prognosis about as valid and well-founded as those which have constantly attended his own tenure of office in Lusaka.

### Mafikeng calling

PAINFUL as the loss of advertising revenue may be to many South African media, the contretemps over Bophutha-Tswana TV invites one simple question: is the territory independent or not?

Or is Mafikeng's jurisdiction confined to the ground — while Pretoria rules the airwaves?

### 'Cistog'

RECENT headline in a morning paper: "Ciskei envoy's R250 000 home."

Same newspaper, same issue, same page, another headline, "R13-million drought aid for Transkei, Ciskei."

There's a moral here somewhere.

### Vive le Premier!

IN his days as Defence Minister (and when Paris was less obsequious about arms supplies) Mr P W Botha was a regular visitor to France.

He became, too, a great admirer of things Gallic, not least President de Gaulle's style of government.

And Le grand Charles it was who called referendums whenever domestic politics got sticky.

Which may just explain events of the past week.

### Avoid a shoot-out

WHY doesn't Armscor simply give up and move its test range to Namaqualand?

The forces ranged against its plans to shoot missiles across the precious Overberg are powerful and know no political party boundaries.

And opposition is only just getting under way. Hogarth predicts that when it is truly mobilised and the Cabinet starts feeling the full pressure, Armscor will be asked to move elsewhere.

Why not back down gracefully now and cash in on the public relations kudos such a gesture will bring?

### Pressing problem

GOOD news of the week is that the PM is going to jack up his liaison by providing a 24-hour service to field Press inquiries.

First question: When's the referendum?

Answer: No comment.

Sigh ...

But it's early days and Hogarth wishes the venture well.

### Home truth

SINCE the Group Areas Act first went onto the Statute book nearly 82 000 coloured families have been moved out of their homes.

But 5 000 still have to be moved, says Minister Pen Kotze.

Some 5 000 more supporters for the Government's constitutional plan?

### Catholic credibility

TO their credit, Zimbabwe's Catholic bishops are nothing if not even-handed — and Mr Mugabe would do well to heed them.

When Mr Ian Smith was in power they regularly chided him for excesses by his security forces.

Now they're doing the same to Mr Mugabe.

They, at least, have not fallen prey to double-standards.

### Punchline



**TAKE YOUR PICK OF THE**

**ONCE IN A LIFETIME**

**ROUGH DIAMOND**

**WORLD'S BEST PAPERBACKS!**

It's this easy. You tell us what you want and we'll do the shopping for you.

Not only will you enjoy bestselling English paperbacks by internationally famous authors on the categories (i.e. thrillers, science fiction, crime, general fiction, romance, etc.) you enjoy most, you could also have them gracing your bookshelves long before they reach the bookshops. With Postal Paperbacks Inc. you can say goodbye to the days when you spent hours nosing through bookshops for your favourite paperbacks. We'll send them to you and you won't be paying a cent more for them than you would in the bookshops.

You decide on a favourite author and category you're most interested in reading about, and we will send you every new book published by your chosen author as soon as it becomes available, as well as monthly books on your preferred category.

For more information and a questionnaire on your reading preferences, please put your name and address on a postcard and address it to: Postal Paperbacks Inc., P.O. Box 373, Pretoria 0001 or drop it in at our offices on 1st Floor, DRU Building, 413 Hilda Street, Hatfield, Pretoria. Telephone: (012) 43-7731.

**TRAIN FOR CAREERS THAT PAY!**

**OUR FREE BOOK SHOWS YOU HOW**

To receive your FREE copy, write your name and address below, tick the Courses you like, and send this notice to our local Representatives. Each of our Courses includes 5 Instruction Books, Tests, Model Answers, Stationery, expert Tutoring by airmail and a Certificate or Diploma in 6 months. The Fee for a course may be paid in full on enrolment or by monthly instalments, in Rand through any branch of Barclays National Bank. Courses are available only in Rand.

<input type="checkbox"/> MOTOR VEHICLE MECHANICS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC	<input type="checkbox"/> MANAGEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SHORTHAND
<input type="checkbox"/> BOOKKEEPING & ACCOUNTS	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGLISH (Practical/Examination)	<input type="checkbox"/> OFFICE MANAGEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> STENOGRAPHY
<input type="checkbox"/> BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGLISH (Higher/Examination)	<input type="checkbox"/> SALES MANAGEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> TEACHING
<input type="checkbox"/> BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> SECRETARIATSHIP	<input type="checkbox"/> TROPICAL AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> CLERICAL DUTIES	<input type="checkbox"/> JOURNALISM & WRITING	<input type="checkbox"/> FOUNDATION FOR G.C.E. STUDIES	<input type="checkbox"/> TYPEWRITING

**TRANS-WORLD TUTORIAL COLLEGE**

Representatives: P.O. Box 992, Fourways 2055

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

College Address: P.O. Box 42, Jersey Britain

FROM time to time our State information machine stages a fit.

It does this by attacking a particular piece of writing for inaccuracies — often minor ones — and then declaring it beyond the pale. Not always by banning it, but often by smearing it with a lacquer of untruthability.

The most recent example is the furore against the Newsweek article by Mr Holger Jensen.

I don't think the official bluster of indignation will have much effect on Newsweek, or on responsible opinion abroad, but it does have an effect on many white South Africans.

After watching a number of these orchestrated outbursts over the years, I believe that is the intention: to discredit the report at home.

The State blasts minor points in order to persuade its citizens that the major assertions and conclusions are untrue and should be ignored.

### Research

Curiously, the weakness of the case against the article is highlighted by the fact that the attackers even seize on the printer's error of misspelling the name of Mr Heunis ("Meunis") — implying that this is a demonstration of Mr Jensen's ignorance.

Anyone noting the extremely detailed research done by the writer will dismiss this as obvious nonsense.

The article does give credit for reform efforts to date, but is severely critical of their adequacy. It gives an essentially true picture of life in South

## By FRANZ AUERBACH President, SA Institute of Race Relations

Africa as it affects the majority of black South Africans.

Few of them would find much fault with it. True, I have many advantages over many other white voters. I have visited some resettlement areas: Overwacht near Thaba N'chu, Kwaggafontein in Kwa-Ndebele, near Groblersdal, and Silvertown, near Brakpan.



# My 'honeymoon' of torment

Report and pictures by MIKE HEWITT, Upington

## Mystery 'sex calls' plague women

By TICKS CHETTY

A WOMAN claiming to be a clinic sister has been telephoning people at all hours, asking intimate questions about their sex lives.

Police at Ladysmith now believe that the phoney caller could be the same woman who harassed residents with "sex calls" at the neighbouring town of Estcourt some months back.

People complained that when the woman did not get the answers she wanted, she became abusive.

The Ladysmith municipality has warned residents in a letter that they could be next on her list.

### Complaints

The letter reads: "Members of the Indian community are warned to be on the lookout for a mysterious caller who impersonates an Indian clinic sister and misinforms the Indian community about family planning."

"Complaints have been received from various people, especially housewives, from whom the culprit wanted to know details of their sex relations."

"The Indian community is advised that no information of such a personal nature is ever officially required over the telephone."

Police have been unable to track down the woman because she chooses her victims at random.

When the woman troubled Estcourt residents about two months ago, the town clerk, Mr Errol Firman, said it was suspected that she was the same person who reported non-existent fires.



Mrs Dorothy Theron will, from now on, only be able to meet her husband over a glass partition in Pretoria Central Prison

THE distraught wife of condemned murderer Hannes Theron spoke this week of her brief but blissful marriage to "the type of husband every woman wants".

Slim, silver-haired Dorothy Theron shared four sad minutes with her husband moments after he stepped down from the dock.

Earlier, he had held her hand and whispered "I love you". They shared a brief intimate moment soon after Mr Justice Erasmus told the Bible-toting farmer: "You will hang by the neck until you die."

Then Theron was led away on his journey to death-row at Pretoria Central Prison.

The Theron had planned to spend the past month on a belated honeymoon.

But instead of a romantic holiday at a Cape beach, the couple spent two weeks of torment in a packed Upington courtroom.

There, on Monday, 50-year-old Theron was sentenced to death for killing former National Party Senator Dr A J Visser in a "night of horror and brutality".

### Shockwaves

After the sentence — which sent shockwaves throughout the stunned communities of Gordonia — Mrs Theron spoke to the Sunday Times of her life with the quiet, God-fearing man turned murderer.

"Hannes was always the type of husband every woman wants," Mrs Theron told me. "He was kind, considerate and helpful — and we were so much in love."

"I never believed that our lives would come to this, or

## Condemned to be alone — the fate of a killer's wife

that Hannes could commit murder."

For Mrs Theron it was her second marriage. And for Hannes Theron it was his third time at the altar — his first two wives had both died of asthma.

After saying "I do" at a family wedding in the Keimoes Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk last May 20, life suddenly seemed to take on a new meaning for the middle-aged couple.

"We did so much together — all those things which Hannes had not done for years."

"We went dancing and ate out in Upington... we were almost inseparable and shared so many common interests," said Mrs Theron.

But the rosy future the Theron had planned turned

into a nightmare.

Angered that he had been deprived of his "birthright" — the Malanshoek farm — Hannes took revenge on Dr Visser and killed him there on October 20.

In the words of his advocate Dr W E Cooper, SC, Theron had "saddled a horse of emotion... a tiger which turned and devoured him".

But the court found that there were no extenuating circumstances.

Theron, said Mr Justice Rudolf Erasmus, was a man who "carried the Bible in his pocket, and not in his heart".

Then, in the hushed courtroom under the boiling Karoo sun, the rugged farmer swayed slightly on his feet, raised his right hand and said:

"As God is my witness, Dr Visser defrauded me... he

reaped what he had not sown — and picked the bitter fruit of it."

Behind him, little more than an arm's length away, Mrs Theron wept bitterly.

Then, lifting her head from her hands, she shouted: "That's not justice!" ("Dis onregverdig!")

For Hannes Theron it was almost the end of the line — unless his sentence is reviewed on appeal.

Turning to look at his wife, he tried to say something. But no words came out of his mouth.

Then the packed courtroom emptied — and Mrs Theron spent four minutes talking to her husband.

"I told him that I would wait for him — no matter how long it takes."

"There is a reason the Lord has done this — we will just have to wait and see. But I have hope that the appeal will succeed."

### Penalty

Mrs Theron said it never crossed her mind that the ultimate penalty would be imposed on her husband.

"I thought it impossible. Even before the sentence, I had hoped that Hannes would walk out of court a free man."

"At most I thought he would receive a prison sentence."

"It was even unfathomable when I was told that he couldn't join us for lunch on Monday, because he was no longer on bail."

Mrs Theron claimed that her husband also never expected to be sent to the gallows.

Such thoughts did not pass between them.

Instead, the couple prayed and read the Bible every morning and evening during the 10-day hearing.

"But on Monday morning, Hannes held my hand and told me that he loved me."

"It was good for him that he had a woman by his side throughout the ordeal."

"And I know also, that the whole district was behind us."

Mrs Theron met her husband only six months before their marriage.

### Lonely

The couple did not honeymoon at the time. Instead, they planned a special time together in March.

"We would have gone to Hartenbos in the Cape," Mrs Theron sobbed.

But now Dorothy Theron is a lonely woman. Her companions this week were her two sons, Kobus, 24, and Johan Wiese, 21.

But the trio were happy at the news that a petition may be sent to the State President asking for clemency.

A campaign to rescue Theron from the gallows has begun in the North-Western Cape with sympathisers pledging cash, support and their signatures on the petition.

A friend of the family said this week he had been inundated with calls from old friends of the Theron and even strangers offering financial help.

Meanwhile, Mrs Theron plans to visit her husband in the death cell at Pretoria Central on her weekends off.



Convicted killer Hannes Theron — didn't expect the ultimate penalty

## Court official charged

Sunday Times Reporter

DETECTIVES are investigating "several hundred" charges arising from alleged thefts at a magistrate's court over a 20-month period.

A clerk of the court at Gelvandale Magistrate's Court, Mr Pierre Johan Ruiters, of Seventh Street, Windvogel, Port Elizabeth, appeared briefly in the magistrate's court last week on a charge of theft.

No evidence was led and the magistrate, Mr P Crous, remanded him in custody to April 15.

### Intensive

The alleged thefts took place between July 1981 and last month.

Captain D L E Laubscher, branch commander of the CID at Algoa Park, Port Elizabeth, said an intensive police investigation was under way and the charges could run into several hundred.

It is alleged that control documents were destroyed at the court.

The police investigation began after a magistrate checked the court records.

## Row over 'suspect' beauty product

By BRENDON BURNS

A COSMETICS company has warned that an expensive beauty-care product being marketed by another company is suspect and could cause skin damage.

Avroy Shlain Cosmetics of Johannesburg says a product being sold as "Youth Gel" is from a shipment it had ordered, but then asked the Department of Customs to destroy because of bacterial infection.

Maritzburg attorney Mr Farouk Jasat, said a client, whom he would not name, bought the gel from customs last year.

But Mr Jasat denied it was contaminated.

The gel is being advertised by a Maritzburg company at R12. Avroy Shlain's product, Nuclelle Youth Gel, sells for R30.

The cosmetic company's general manager-designate, Mr Jack Noble, showed the Sunday Times two laboratory reports confirming the shipment was affected.

One report by a Johannesburg company said each of the four samples supplied had bacteria and mould.

"Contaminated products of this nature are unfit for human use and should not be sold," said the laboratory.

The gel was developed in England by Harley Street youth rejuvenation specialist, Dr Peter Stephan. It is claimed to eliminate blemishes and reduce premature wrinkles in its uncontaminated form.

## Giant 'dolphin' is rare whale

A WHALE which beached close to the Great Brak River mouth last week has been described by experts as an extremely valuable scientific find.

The mysterious creature which came ashore within easy walking distance of the southern Cape coastal town

Sunday Times Reporter

dumbfounded many curious residents who turned out to see the spectacle.

The mystery whale, which resembled a giant dolphin, was later identified as an extremely rare Grays Beaked Whale.

One of the first people to be informed of the find was Great Brak River Town Clerk Mr Johan Olivier.

Sea Fisheries research technician Mr P Sims immediately contacted Mr Vic Cockcroft, a marine mammalogist at the Port Elizabeth Museum, who identified the important discovery the next day.

**Sunday Times**  
There's a  
**GOLD RUSH**  
on in your  
**MAGAZINE!**

## Cheetahs are now out of danger

Sunday Times Reporter

THE cheetahs at Seaview Game Park, near Port Elizabeth, are on the mend after being virtually bedridden by a blood disorder.

Tame cheetahs Suzie and Luke are eating well and romping around, says Mrs Marlene Cantor, wife of the park owner.

The cheetahs received get-well cards and were the subject of telephone calls from children and adults all over the country.

Mrs Cantor said she and her husband were thrilled that Suzie and Luke — and two wild cheetahs who were also ill — had made such a good recovery.

Watson fashion with true Continental styling for elegant comfort

Style 7048

Style 3196

**WATSON**  
takes fashion a step further

MAINTY SCHÖNFELD & PARTNERS 10306/01



Are the plans to introduce several tolls in South Africa a 'gimmick' to extract more money more easily from the pockets of road users? Or are they a genuine, economically viable effort in the interests of every road user?

Will these tolls be a nuisance; slow down traffic; waste valuable time; increase petrol consumption and wear and tear on vehicles; cost a lot of money and ultimately result in less productive employment of scarce financial resources; and result in higher tax demands on everyone? NO... THEY ARE A GENUINE EFFORT... THE WAY THE SOUTH AFRICAN TOLLS ARE ENVISAGED.

**\* A DECISION NOT LIGHTLY TAKEN.**

So, like most worthwhile things in life, the decision by the authorities to introduce tolls in South Africa has not been taken lightly. It has only been taken after an in-depth investigation, locally and overseas; advice from many authorities; and consideration of the whole matter by a Select Committee consisting of members of the Government and the Opposition. Evidence was obtained from varied interests.

The Chairman of this Select Committee was Mr. G. C. du Plessis, MP for Kempton Park, and the main Spokesman for the Official Opposition was Mr. R. A. F. Swart, MP for Berea. The Committee members spent considerable time on this matter before coming to a unanimous conclusion and recommendation.

**\* SOUTH AFRICA IN VERY BEST COMPANY.**

South Africa will also not be the only, or the first, country where tolls have been introduced. We have learned from others.

The United States of America, the world's strongest economic power and one of the wealthiest ever, also having of the highest productivity per capita, has tolls in many of its States.

Tolls are also in operation in countries such as France, Italy, Japan, Taiwan, Portugal and Spain.

**\* IT IS ENVISAGED AT THIS STAGE THAT A NUMBER OF VITAL BUT EXPENSIVE ROAD FACILITIES, WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE HAD TO BE DELAYED, WILL BE MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE INTRODUCTION OF A FEW SELECTIVE TOLLS.**

**\* WILL PUBLIC INTEREST BE PROTECTED? YES!**

The money spent on Toll projects will be recovered by the toll charges to the public; but the public will not be exploited. Tolls will be set at a level to recover expenditure on each project and yield a nett benefit to the user.

Also, not to make money for other projects. Tolls will be automated, simple to use and the delay minimal. Nobody will find them strange because the public is already accustomed to

**\* THEY WILL BE COST EFFECTIVE... AND THE TOLL USER WILL SAVE MONEY, TIME AND IRRITATION...**

As a definite policy every Toll will be planned to be cost effective. It is not the intention to exploit the road users by collecting from them more than is justified for this specific purpose.

**THE USER WILL SAVE MUCH MORE IN MONEY ALONE THAN THE AMOUNT OF TOLL LEVY. PLUS HE/SHE WILL ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF TIME SAVING, LESS WEAR AND TEAR...**

Generally:

- (a) more and better roads will become available sooner and
- (b) cost and time saving should help in the fight against inflation.

**\* THE ROAD USER WILL ALWAYS HAVE AN ALTERNATIVE, DEMOCRATIC CHOICE.**

As a matter of policy, toll roads will be planned in a manner whereby there will always be a well-maintained, alternative route available for those who wish to avoid the tolls.

**\* LESS IRRITATION AND FRUSTRATION.**

New toll roads will remove at least some of the motorist's irritations and frustrations where he otherwise might have to contend with steep gradients, narrow roads, sharp curves, getting past slow-moving traffic; and he will be able to enjoy saving of time and fuel.

**\* ADVANTAGES THUS FAR OUTWEIGH DISADVANTAGES.**

Experience in countries where tolls have been in operation for a long time proves that 'collection' is not excessively costly and that ultimately the advantages of a more efficient system of national roads far outweigh and more than compensate for any possible disadvantages.

**\* GOOD ROADS ARE VITAL.**

Every South African already knows that to expect progress, more and better jobs, better income, better living, it is necessary that our communication systems be sufficiently modern and effective. Good roads are vitally important for every single South African.

**\* LARGE AMOUNTS OF CAPITAL NEEDED.**

To build such roads and maintain them, very large amounts of capital are needed, as well as an assured level of funds for maintenance.

Whereas toll money will be used selectively for more and better national roads only, it is logical that in the first place, especially those who use national roads, should contribute, not only by means of their fuel consumption, to which users of all other roads in any case contribute, but at least to some extent more directly for specially expensive facilities.

**\* TOLLS WHERE?**

The National Transport Commission still have to decide exactly where and when the tolls will be installed.

Apart from DuToitskloof, a toll on the Garden Route in the Stormsriver environment is being considered.

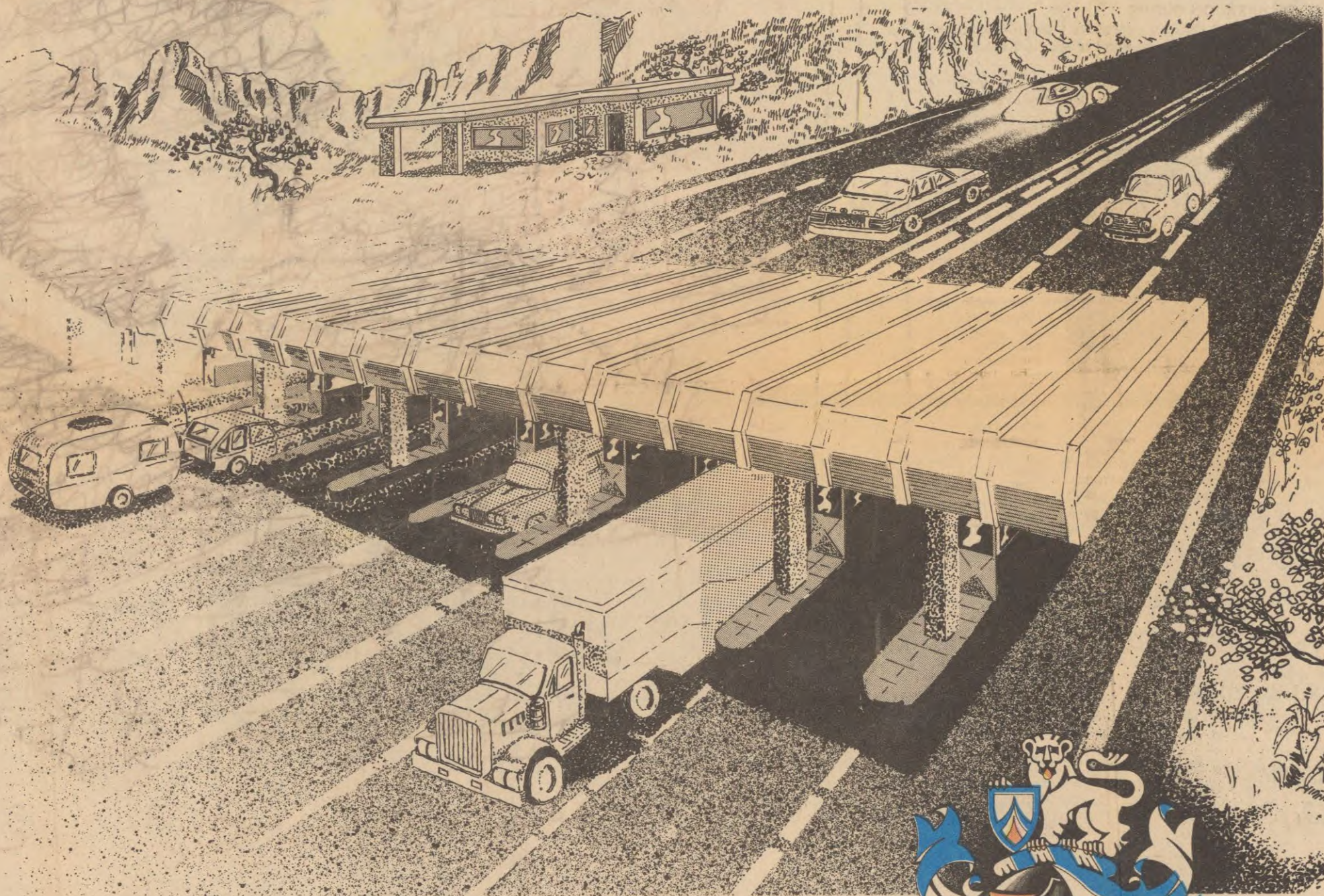
**\* It is calculated that the raising of loans for tolls will be fully recouped in approximately 20 to 25 years, depending on the particular project.**

**\* SOUTH AFRICA TO REMAIN THE LEADER ALSO IN COMMUNICATION.**

As already the leading country on the African continent, in so many spheres, we feel strongly that tolls would be another facet in making and maintaining South Africa's communication system as second to none on the African continent; and even internationally.

# Why Toll Roads?

## ...And what about my pocket?



### AN INVITATION!

We appeal to all community leaders and opinion makers, especially those to whom the above may not be abundantly clear, to request information and explanations from us; and especially that these leading South Africans would kindly assist us in making the basics, the advantages and disadvantages, known to the broad spectrum of the South African society.

Feel welcome to contact: The Director-General, Department of Transport, P.O. Box 415, Pretoria, 0001.

Designed and placed for Kirkpatrick Marais and Associates by Adpro (Pty) Ltd.



Whichever you choose, you win with a Volkskas cheque account.

If the minimum monthly balance on your cheque account exceeds R2 000, you don't pay a single cent for service fees! And if it's R2 000 or less, you still get a handsome rebate: 40% on minimum monthly balances from more than R1 000 up to and including R2 000, and 20% on minimum monthly balances of R250 to R1 000.

All existing personal cheque accounts will

**FROM 1st MAY  
YOU CAN GET  
A 100% REBATE ON  
SERVICE FEES OR  
5% INTEREST ON  
YOUR  
CHEQUE ACCOUNT.**

automatically be placed on the rebate system, but if you prefer to earn interest on your cheque account, talk to your Volkskas Manager. You'll then get the following interest rates:

Min. monthly balance	Interest
Amounts over R1 000	5%
R250 - R1 000	3%

#### **Business cheque accounts**

Volkskas pays 5% interest on all business cheque account credit balances of R1 000 or more. Interest is calculated monthly on the minimum balance.

Volkskas' personal loan scheme will provide you with a financing service that doesn't pay you any lip service: if you want to borrow funds up to twice your monthly income, no questions will be asked as to the purpose of this loan.

Whether you're a Volkskas client or not.

And what's more, you can repay your

**NOW YOU CAN GET  
A PERSONAL LOAN  
AMOUNTING TO  
DOUBLE YOUR  
MONTHLY SALARY.**

loan over a period of up to 48 months. Interest rates are as follows: Periods of up to 12 months: Volkskas' prime interest rate + 1% = 15%. 13 to 24 months: Volkskas' prime interest rate + 1,5% = 15,5%. 25 to 36 months: Volkskas' prime interest

rate + 2,5% = 16,5%. 37 to 48 months:

Volkskas' prime interest rate + 3% = 17%.

With our Home Mortgage Loan Scheme we can open the door to the home you've always wanted. Whether you're currently banking with Volkskas or not.

You can apply for a bond up to 90% of the valuation or price of the house you want to purchase.

**NOW YOU CAN GET  
A HOME LOAN AT  
A COMPETITIVE  
INTEREST RATE.**

The income of both you and your spouse will be taken into account. And the monthly repayments can be as high as 30% of this combined income!

In addition, you get interest rates that are highly competitive: 15% on loans up to R40 000 and 16% on loans over R40 000.

These are just three of the many ways in which it pays to have a bank that supports you through thick and thin.

Volkskas Limited (Registered Commercial Bank)

**Volkskas**



Your bank through thick and thin.